

Testimony of

Jeffrey Tripp

Housatonic Valley Regional Faculty Assn Educator

Before the

Education Committee

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Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

The minimum teacher salary is long overdue to attract quality teaching candidates, especially with the current teacher shortage. The COVID Benefit Enhancement is also vital to help out our teachers who worked during the pandemic. We were there everyday, before vaccines were available with a population of students who were poor mask wearers. This is a small token of appreciation for the sacrifice that teachers put forth.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

